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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.*Despatches to England*

Desp. G.O. No.	12	Press Mis.
Dated	19 - 5 - 1859.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PUBLIC.

No. 12 of 1859.

TO
THE RIGHT HONORABLE LORD STANLEY,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA.

MY LORD,

Para. 1. We have the honor to inform your Lordship that we have applied to the Government of India for sanction to certain arrangements having for their object the care and custody of the valuable Stores and Machinery belonging to the Public Works Department of this Presidency.

2. By an order dated 6th May 1856 No. 1057 this Government in accordance with a suggestion of the Chief Engineer directed that the Ordnance Department should receive, take charge of, and issue from time to time as might be required, all Machinery and Stores intended for the use of the Public Works Department. It was believed at the time that this arrangement would be found both convenient and economical, and that it was even necessary on several grounds; but subsequent experience has proved it to be otherwise. It is stated to have caused confusion in the Stores, and difficulty in distinguishing between those intended for the Ordnance and those belonging to the Public Works Department; it has also led to frequent and repeated complaints of delay and difficulty in obtaining Stores for the use of the latter Department; and no small amount of angry feeling has been produced between the two Departments as your Lordship will see by the Proceedings recorded in the Consultations as noted in the margin.

Military Consultation 6th May 1856
Nos. 104-105.

P. W. Con,	10th Aug. 1858,	Nos. 16 @ 22.
do.	17th " "	" 35-36.
do.	28th Sept. " "	" 30 @ 33.
do.	12th Octr. " "	" 107-108.
do.	5th Novr. " "	" 9-10.
do.	30th " "	" 30-31.
do.	21st Decr. " "	" 130-131.

3. Independently of these inconveniences, the accommodation in the Grand Arsenal for such large and heavy Machinery as has been recently imported from England, has been found wholly insufficient, and we have been obliged to assent to expenditures for temporary Sheds to shelter a part of what cannot be received in the Arsenal; while notwithstanding these arrangements a large quantity of valuable Machinery is still exposed to the weather besides being subjected to much damage in various ways.

4. We have long had in view a change of system such as would place the custody and issue of Stores belonging to the Public Works Department, in the hands of the Chief of that Department; but we have been hitherto deterred from proposing any scheme for that purpose, as we learnt* that a similar plan had failed in Calcutta and that the subject had been referred to a Committee of Officers; we determined therefore to await the result of the Committee's Report promised to us by the Government of India, before taking any decisive steps in the matter.

5. The time has now arrived however when it would be unwise longer to remain quiescent. The Chief Engineer's letters of the 21st March and 6th April 1859, fully describe the present state of the case. The first letter represents the necessity of having an Engineering Store and Workshop at the Presidency unconnected with the Ordnance Department, for the custody and care of the Machinery already received and still expected from England; and describes the arrangements necessary for such an Establishment; and it is accompanied by a Plan and Estimate amounting to Rupees 61,000 for the construction of the requisite Buildings. The second letter gives cover to a report of the Committee held at the instance of the Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines to examine some Machinery landed from the Cressy.

6. These papers having satisfied us that the plan of a separate Work and Store-yard for the Public Works Department at this Presidency was quite necessary, we resolved, with reference

on several grounds; but

to the great and positive loss actually suffered under the present practice to solicit the immediate sanction of the Government of India for the Buildings and Establishments asked for by the Chief Engineer, both of which we considered to be on a moderate scale.

7. The Estimate for the Buildings forwarded to the Government of India amounts as before noticed to 61,000 Rupees. The Establishment proposed by the Chief Engineer for the duties of landing, receiving, safe custody, repair, issue, &c. of Stores amounts to Rupees 1,079-8-0 per month, but deducting the Agency already available, the net additional charge on the State will be no more than Rupees 322-8-0 per mensem.

8. In our Resolution of the 11th April 1859 we directed the attention of Colonel Bell, the newly appointed Chief Engineer to the necessity of establishing an efficient system of Accounts and Audit in the Public Works Department; and we subsequently informed him, in connection with the project now under report, that it was the design of this Government that that system should include a simple and effective scheme of Store Accounts.

We have the honor to be,

MY LORD,

Your Lordship's most obedient
humble Servants,

Fort Saint George, }

19th May 1859. }

Exd. Wm. Thomas.

on several grounds. but

FORT SAINT GEORGE
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Letter to the Right Honorable
the Secretary of State for India,

Dated 19 May,

No. 2 of 1859.

Informing that an application has been made to the
Government of India for sanction to certain ar-
rangements for the preservation of valuable Stores and
Machinery belonging to the Public Works Department
of this Presidency.

No. 12 of 1859.

No. 3 May 1859. No. 28/32

This is a very
illegible handwriting
and abounds in
contradictions

Mty Com. 6 May 1856 No. 104-105

LG

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The Rt Hon. Lord Stanley
Secy of State for India,
My Lord,
I have the honor
to inform your Lordship
that an application has
been made to the Secy of India for sanction
to certain arrangements
having for their object
the safe custody of the
valuable stores & machinery
belonging to the P.W.D. of
this Presidency.

2. By an order dated
6 May 1856 No. 105 the Govt in
accordance with a suggestion
of the Chief Engineer directed
that the Ordnance Department
should receive, to the charge
of, & receive from time to time
as might be required, all
machinery & stores intended
for the use of the P.W. Dept.
It was believed at the
time that this arrangement
would be found both
convenient & economical
& that it was even necessary
in several places; but

Plow Con. 10 Aug 1888 No 16 & 22.
 17 ————— 35. 36.
 22 Sept ————— 30 & 33.
 12 Oct ————— 107. 108.
 5 Nov ————— 9. 10.
 30 ————— 30. 31.
 21 Dec ————— 130. 131.

*. *transf. p. dia 16 July*
in Cerv. 10 Aug 1848 1/22/1848

4 We have long had in
view a change of system
such as ^{would} place the Customs
& revenue of stores belonging
to the P.W.D. in the hands
of the Chief of that Department
but we have been hitherto
deterred from proposing any
scheme for that purpose
as we feared that a similar
plan had failed in Calcutta
& that the subject had been
referred to a Committee of
Officers; we determined therefore
to await the result of the
Committee's report promised
to us by the ~~for~~ of India
before taking any decisive
steps in the matter.

5. The time has ~~now~~^{however} arrived when it would be twice longer to remain open & sent. The Chief Secy's letter of the 21st March & 6 April 1859 fully describe the present state of the case. The present letter presents the necessity of having an engraving plate & workshop at the Presidency connected with the Ordnance Department, for the custody & care of the machinery already received & the plates expected from England. It describes the arrangements necessary for such an establishment, and is accompanied by a Plan & Estimate amounting to Rs. 6000 for the construction of the requisite buildings. The second letter was sent to a report of the Committee held at the instance of the Department of Ordnance & Magazines to examine some machinery landed from the Presidency.

6. These papers having satisfied us that the plan of a separate work & store for the P. & D. at the Presidency was quite necessary, we resolved, with reference to the great & positive loss actually suffered under the present practice, to submit the immediate sanction of the Govt of India for the building & establishment asked for by the Chief Secy, both of which we considered to be on a moderate scale.

7. The Estimate for the buildings forwarded to the Govt of India amounts as before ^{notified} to Rs. 6000. The establishment proposed by the Chief Secy for the duties of packing, receiving, safe custody, repairs, issue & stores amount to Rs. 1070. 8 per month, but ~~as~~^{already} during the Agency, available, the net additional charge on the State will be no more than Rs. 322. 8 per mensem.

8. In our resolution
of the 11 April 1859 we
directed the attention of
Col. Belk, the newly appointed
Chief of Staff to the necessity
of establishing an efficient
system of Accounts and Audit
in the P.W.D. ^{subsequently} ~~has~~
has informed him, in connection
with the project, under report,
that it was the design
of the Staff that that system
should include a simple
& effective scheme of
these accounts.

[Signature]

Can. 12 April 1859 No 73474
- passed in letter to the Staff
dated 13 April 1859 No 7.

T. G. George
19th May 1859

Letter to the Honorable
the Secretary of State for
India

Dated 19th May 1859.

Orig. }
Dups. } For Messrs. Adams 21st May
Info. For Messrs.

Copy to the Govt of India on the
28th May 1859.

Informing that an application has been made to the Government of India for sanction to certain arrangements for the preservation of valuable stores and machinery belonging to the Pub-works Dept of this Presidency-

Ans^d 24 Nov 1859 No 36 of 6

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